

**Before the State of South Carolina  
Department of Insurance**

In the matter of:

SCDI File Number 2002-111754

CIGNA Insurance Services Company

146 Fairchild Street  
Charleston, South Carolina 29492.

**Consent Order  
Imposing Administrative Penalty**

This matter comes before me pursuant to an agreement entered into between the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance and CIGNA Insurance Services Company (the Company), an insurer licensed to transact insurance business within the State of South Carolina.

The Company hereby acknowledges, and I find as fact, that it failed to timely pay its December 2001 Quarterly Tax Return Installment. (It is duly noted that December 1, 2001 was a Saturday.) The Company mailed its December 2001 Quarterly Tax Return Installment on or about December 4, 2001 along with its check dated November 27, 2001. This insurer previously also had failed to timely pay a previous installment with the Department, for which it was given a first-offense warning letter. The Company maintains these actions were the result of administrative oversight and were not the intentional violation of South Carolina law.

Rather than contest this matter, the parties have agreed to submit the entire matter to me, along with their specific recommendation, for my summary decision. That consensual recommendation was that the Company would waive its right to a public hearing and would submit an administrative penalty through the Department in the total amount of \$1,000.

Section 38-7-60(3) of the South Carolina Code in pertinent part states, "premium and other taxes imposed on insurers pursuant to Sections 38-7-20, 38-7-30, 38-7-40, 38-7-50, and 38-7-90 must be paid to the Director or his designee in quarterly installments on or before March first, June first, September first, and December first of each calendar year." Sections 38-7-60 (4) and 38-5-120 (A) (2) (2002) allow the Director of Insurance to revoke or suspend the license of or impose an administrative penalty upon an insurer that does not comply with South Carolina's insurance laws.

After a thorough review of the matter, carefully considering the recommendation of the parties, and pursuant to my findings of fact, I hereby conclude as a matter of law that the Company did not timely pay its December 2001 Quarterly Tax Return Installment and comply with S.C. Code Ann. § 38-7-60(3) (2002). Accordingly, I hereby accept the recommendation of the parties and impose an administrative penalty in the total amount of \$1,000 against the Company pursuant to the discretionary authority provided to me by the State of South Carolina General Assembly within S.C. Code Ann. §§ 38-2-10 and 38-5-130 (2002). The Company must pay this administrative penalty within fifteen days of my date and signature upon this consent order. If the Company has not paid that total amount on, or before, that date, then the Company's certificate of authority to transact business as an insurer within the State of South Carolina will be summarily revoked without any further administrative disciplinary proceedings.



CIGNA Ins. Services Co.

The parties have reached this consensual resolution as a result of negotiation and compromise, and in consideration of the internal corrective measures the Company has implemented to prevent this problem from recurring and of the Company's assurance that it will timely pay each of its future Quarterly Tax Return Installments with the Department pursuant to § 38-7-60(3) of the South Carolina Code. This penalty includes all expenses related to investigation of this matter as provided in § 38-13-70 of the South Carolina Code. The parties expressly agree and understand the Company's payment of the agreed-upon penalty constitutes full accord and satisfaction of this matter.


By the signature of one of its officers or authorized representatives upon this consent order, the Company acknowledges that it understands that this administrative order is a public record subject to the disclosure requirements of the State of South Carolina's *Freedom of Information Act*, S.C. Code Ann. §§ 30-4-10, *et seq.* (1991 and Supp. 2001).

Nothing contained within this administrative order should be construed to limit, or to deprive any person of, any private right of action under the law. Nothing contained within this administrative order should be construed to limit, in any manner, the criminal jurisdiction of any law enforcement or judicial officer. Nothing contained within this administrative order should be construed to limit the statutory duty, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 38-3-110 (2002), of the Director of Insurance, exercised either directly or through the Department, to "report to the Attorney General or other appropriate law enforcement officials criminal violations of the laws relative to the business of insurance or the provisions of this title which he considers necessary to report."


It is, therefore, ordered that CIGNA Insurance Services Company shall, within fifteen days of my date and my signature upon this consent order, pay through the Department an administrative penalty in the total amount of \$1,000.

It is further ordered that a copy of this consent order shall be immediately transmitted to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners for distribution to its member states.

This consent order becomes effective on the date of my signature below.

  
Ernst N. Csiszar  
Director

Aug 21, 2002  
Columbia, South Carolina

 CIGNA Ins. Services Co.

I CONSENT:

Steve White

Signature of Authorized Representative

Steve White

Name

President

Title

CIGNA Insurance Services Company

146 Fairchild Street

Charleston, South Carolina 29492

Dated this 14th day of Aug, 2002